MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I have already answered, Sir, that they were all relieved.

Strength of the Vernacular High School, Nagercoil.

225. ✱ MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the strength of each division of Classes VIII and IX of the V. H. School, Nagercoil, is much more than the maximum allowed by the Education Code?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes.

Water-logging in the Neyyattinkara taluk.

226. ✱ MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that, due to want of proper drainage channels, a large part of the cultivation and a large number of houses in Edagramom and Karumon in the Neyyattinkara taluk are under water even under normal floods; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether any step has been taken to save the ryots from such disastrous effects of the floods?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) No but only in extraordinary floods.

(*b*) This does not arise.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know whetether the Chief Engineer has made a local inspection?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): No, I have not.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know whether the Government consider it necessary to give irrigation facilities to this area?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): We had some petitions regarding this. One petition related to the opening of a channel from the Vellayani lake and it is doubtful whether the canal, if constructed, will be very useful. We are avoiding flooding as much as possible by means of shutters.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) May I know whether the Chief Engineer knows at least approximately the number of acres of paddy fields that will be benefited by the opening of drainage channels from the Vellayani lake?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I do not know how many acres of paddy fields will be benefited; but I know the channel will have to be three miles in length and I do not think it will be of any use.

Population in Kalkulam taluk.

227. ✱ MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam II*): Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the predominant communities in the Eraniel and Talacolam *pakuthies* of the Kalkulam taluk

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